

**Listing of the Claims:**

The following is a complete listing of all the claims in the application, with an indication of the status of each:

- 1        1 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a distributed processing system comprising the steps of:
  - 4              using a computer implemented current local winner determination method at each of the nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids; and
  - 7              using a computer implemented current global winner determination method to determine from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of winners.
- 1        2 (Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the auction is an open-cry auction.
- 1        3 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing open-cry auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a distributed processing system comprising the steps of:
  - 4              using a current local winner determination method at each of the nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:
    - 7              (a) receiving a new bid( $v,q$ ) at a node, where  $v$  denotes the price per unit and  $q$  denotes the quantity desired;
    - 9              (b) checking to see if the new bid ranks in the top  $\lfloor N/q \rfloor$  bids, in terms of price/unit bid value, amongst all the bids asking for quantity  $q$  whose information is available to this process, where  $N$  is a number of copies of a single item on sale and  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the greatest integer less than or equal to  $x$ ;
    - 14              (c) taking the new bid along with the set of  $\lfloor N/q \rfloor$  bids that have been processed and determining a new set of top  $\lfloor N/q \rfloor$  bids;

16                             (d) determining if  $\text{bid}(v,q)$  is in the top  $\lfloor N/q \rfloor$  bids and, if it is not,  
17                                 declaring it a loser bid, but if so, declaring it a candidate  
18                                 bid; and

19                             using a current global winner determination method to determine  
20                                 from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
21                                 winners.

1                             4 (Original). The method of claim 3, further comprising the steps of:  
2                                 holding the candidate bid at the node for a time,  $\tau$ ; and  
3                                 if by time  $\tau$ , through an arrival of another bid, a candidate bid loses  
4                                 its position amongst the top  $\lfloor N/q \rfloor$  highest bids, declaring the bid a loser  
5                                 bid;  
6                                 otherwise, declaring the bid a winner candidate and making the bid  
7                                 accessible for further processing by the current global winner  
8                                 determination method.

9                             5 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 4, wherein the current  
10                                 global winner determination method comprises the steps of:  
11                                 receiving new candidate winning bid from a node  $\text{bid}(v,q)$ ;  
12                                 taking the candidate winning bid along with the set of all bids that  
13                                 have been processed and determining a new set of winners;  
14                                 determining whether the new candidate  $\text{bid}(v,q)$  is a winner or a  
15                                 loser; and  
16                                 notifying the bidder of  $\text{bid}(v,q)$  as to whether they are a winner or  
17                                 loser.

1                             6 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing open-cry  
2                                 auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a  
3                                 distributed processing system comprising the steps of:  
4                                 using a current local winner determination method at each of the  
5                                 nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the  
6                                 current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:

7                   (a) receiving a new bid( $v,q$ ) at a node, where  $v$  denotes the price per  
8                   unit and  $q$  denotes the quantity desired;  
9                   (b) considering a set of bids using a set of pre-specified auction  
10                  rules and selecting winners for auctioning  $N+x$  copies of the  
11                  item on sale; and  
12                  (c) determining whether the bid( $v,q$ ) is a candidate winner bid;  
13                  and  
14                  using a current global winner determination method to determine  
15                  from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
16                  winners.

17      7 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 6, wherein the current  
18      global winner determination method comprises the steps of:  
19                  receiving new candidate winning bid from a node bid( $v,q$ );  
20                  taking the candidate winning bid along with the set of all bids that  
21                  have been processed and determining a new set of winners;  
22                  determining whether the new candidate bid( $v,q$ ) is a winner or a  
23                  loser; and  
24                  notifying the bidder of bid( $v,q$ ) as to whether they are a winner or  
25                  loser.

1      8 (Original). The method of claim 1, wherein the auction is a descending  
2      auction.

1      9 (Previously Presented). A distributed method for processing descending  
2      auction traffic using one or more servers at a plurality of nodes in a  
3      distributed processing system comprising the steps of:  
4                  using a current local winner determination method at each of the  
5      nodes to identify loser bids and candidate winning bids, wherein the  
6      current local winner determination method comprises the steps of:  
7                  (a) receiving a bid ( $q$ ) for processing, where  $q$  is the quantity  
8                  desired at going price  $p$ ;

9                         (b) determinating whether the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking  
10                         for quantity  $q$  at price  $p$ , where  $\lfloor x \rfloor$  stands for the greatest  
11                         integer less than or equal to  $x$  and  $R$  is a currently remaining  
12                         quantity on auction;  
13                         (c) if the bid is in the first  $\lfloor R/q \rfloor$  bids, asking for quantity  $q$  at the  
14                         going price  $p$ , then declaring the bid a candidate winner bid;  
15                         and  
16                         (d) making the candidate winner bid available for further  
17                         processing by the current global winner determination  
18                         method; and  
19                         using a current global winner determination method to determine  
20                         from the candidate winning bids from each of the nodes a current set of  
21                         winners.

1                         10 (Original). The method of claim 9, further comprising the steps of:  
2                         giving bids processed by the method a time stamp of arrival; and  
3                         determining whether the time stamp, if it exists on the bid, is  
4                         greater than or equal to the time stamp of any bid, asking for quantity  $q$  at  
5                         going price  $p$ , that has been processed by the method in the past.

1                         11 (Previously Presented). The method of claim 1, wherein bidders submit  
2                         multi-item bids and the bids may be indivisible.